

## LITERARY NOTES.

Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson's next story is to be called "The Justice Clerk." It will be ready in December.

A brief autobiography by Whittier will appear in the forthcoming limited edition of the volume describing the services held in memory of the poet at Amesbury in December last.

Good Master Pepys's Diary is now to be printed for the first time in its entirety, only a few unprintable passages being omitted. The first volume is on the eve of publication by Bell, of London. The edition is made from the transcription of the Diary bequeathed by Mr. Myron Bright to Magdalene College, Cambridge. In his published edition he left about one-fifth of the whole unprinted. The new complete edition will be published in eight volumes. A limited large-paper edition will also be published. Mr. Wheatley, the editor, has contributed many notes, and those of Lord Braybrooke have been included.

Mrs. Van Rensselaer Cruge's new book is almost ready for publication.

Mansuett's mind is quite gone, but his body remains strong and vigorous. His appetite is good and he spends his days in working hard in the garden of the maison de sante in which he lives.

Dr. Horace Howard Furness's readings from Shakespeare, now in progress in Philadelphia, are reported to be remarkably dramatic and impressive.

It is the opinion of Mr. Chatto, the London publisher, that of amateur novel-writers only about three in every hundred find their way into print. During the last year his firm accepted forty-four manuscripts out of 663 sent in.

The late Mr. Taine did not much care to go to society, but liked to receive his friends in his own house, and was accustomed to give Monday dinners, at which distinguished authors were generally found. He was a delightful talker, having a sweet voice and an agreeable and modest manner. He was an excellent musician and loved country life and healthful exercise. M. Saevay tells an interesting story in referring to an educational review which Hachette, the publisher, founded, and to which Taine, Sarey and Abou contributed. "We were paid," says Saevay, "by the mile, but we were young then, and did not think so much of money. The articles of Taine attracted special attention. Unfortunately he fell ill, and the doctor ordered him to pass two months in the South. But he had no funds. Go to the Pyrenees," said Hachette, "and make us a guide, which shall form part of our collection." The publisher advanced his expenses, and after two months Taine returned with his now celebrated "Voyage aux Pyrenees." Hachette, on reading the manuscript, exclaimed, "This is not what I ordered you to write; it is not a guide, but a work of the first mark, which I shall bring out at once. Don't trouble yourself about it; your fortune will be made, and so it turned out."

Margaret Sidney's pleasant sketch of Whittier will shortly be brought out in a volume to be called "Whittier with the Children." It deals with the poet in that most charming and benign aspect revealed in his relations with his little friends. The book is to be profusely illustrated.

The mass of unpublished material left by Victor Hugo promises to survive in Ms. this generation of editors. M. Vacquerie writes: "The inventory which Maurice and myself have made of his manuscripts, and which has now lasted eighteen months, has already placed us in possession of no fewer than 400,000 papers and notes which we have had to sift and classify." M. Vacquerie says that Hugo during the last years of his life took little interest in his dramatic works. "Don't bother me about them," he once remarked, "let me live in peace. After my death you can do what you like." Another volume of his unpublished poems will come out in May next, but it will be far from being the last.

Mr. William Winter delivered on Staten Island last week a very successful lecture on "Jefferson and Other Comedians." It is mentioned by "The Staten Islander" as a fascinating talk, filled with keen analysis, exquisite description, and rippling humor.

M. Georges Olivet, author of the "Maitre de Forges," is about to publish a new novel, which he declares to be entirely unlike anything he has published previously.

Mr. Sala again writing of Thackeray in "The London Telegraph" says that "he was unswervingly and invariably truthful; he was kind, compassionate, charitable, and to the best of my belief, strongly imbued with religious principle and sentiment. Of his occasional propensity to treat one in a distant, stand-off, and Great Twamley's manner I have already incidentally and laughingly spoken. I knew him long enough and intimately enough to regard these little exhibitions of 'pecciness' as utterly unworthy of serious notice. When I strolled into the hall of the Reform, either at luncheon-time or in the evening, and saw Mr. Thackeray, I never failed to take careful note of him. If, to my thinking, he was in a disagreeable humor, I gave him the widest of wide berths. But when he smiled me, and I saw him put his hands in his pockets and beam over his spectacles, I knew that he was in good form, and that he would be cheerful, tolerant and delightful. He had an odd way of calling me the 'Rev. Dr. Sala,' chiefly because, I believe, I used to talk him out as outspokenly and seriously as in the old time he had talked to me, and then answer the questions which he was so fond of putting to me in a perfectly unreserved and straightforward manner. He knew how much I loved and revered him, and that is why we got on so well together. There were some friends of his who used to call him 'Thack' and slap him on the back. I never called him anything but 'Mr. Thackeray,' and I did so because I knew he was my elder, and conscientiously believed that he was in every way my better."

From the bottom of my heart I declare that he was not a cynic; I mean that he entertained no more nor contemptuous views and tenets on human nature. The real cynic has the qualities of the surly dog; he snarls, he is captious, he is surly, curmish, austere. Bishop Berkeley speaks of 'cynical content in dirt and beggary.' Thackeray, on the contrary, loved light and culture and luxury. I have heard him say that he liked to go to his bedchamber at night with a wax taper and a silver candlestick. That was merely a frank way of putting it, that he preferred the elegancies of life to squalor and ugliness. He has been unjustly termed a cynic, because he could not help being a satirist; but although he was a master of irony, and on occasions could use the scalpel with effect as terrible as ever it had been used by Juvenal, by Dryden, or by Pope, I never heard him say one unkindly thing of human weakness, or frailty, or mortification.

A copy of the first edition of "Tom Jones" has just been sold in London for £35. It was uncut and in the original boards.

## New Publications.

## LITERARY NOTES.

HOW NATURE CURES.

BY EMMET DENSMORE, M. D. Published by SWAN SONNENSCHEIN & CO., Fleetstreet Square, London; a work of 415 pages, clear type, fine paper, well bound in cloth; price, \$2.60.

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Dr. Densmore, although a graduate of one of the old school medical colleges, is decidedly opposed to drastic drugs and mineral waters, and is equally in favor of preventing disease by diet and abstinence. The "Sunday Review" (London, Sept. 20, 1890) editorially states: "DR. DENSMORE IS ONE OF THE MOST OPEN-MINDED MEN WE HAVE EVER MET IN PRINT." Dr. Densmore is well known in England as the founder of the Natural Food Society, and of its organ, "The Natural Food Magazine"; and he has brought confirmation into the ranks of the vegetarians by the new lights he has brought to bear upon their favorite foods.

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